



## RTCA in Nevada

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. The National Park Service (NPS) staff provide technical assistance to community groups, city, county, tribal governments, and non-profit organizations working to enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation opportunities. We help local leaders plan and design trails and parks; conserve and improve access to natural areas; protect special places; and create recreation opportunities.

The RTCA program in Nevada offers a wide range of services that can be tailored to meet the needs of an individual project. The NPS staff members are trained facilitators who encourage project leaders to build collaborative partnerships among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The program helps communities and groups define their vision, goals, and objectives; analyze issues and opportunities; and develop strategic action plans and time lines for projects. We do not provide financial assistance, but can help project partners identify and secure sources of funding and technical support.

Any community with committed project partners can apply for assistance. Believing the best plans are completed locally, the National Park Service will work with partners to encourage broad-based community participation in planning, designing, and implementing the projects we support.

In 2016, the National Park Service in Nevada will work on a variety of projects including:

- **Baker Trails** – The project goal is to develop trails that connect the community to schools, the Great Basin National Park Visitor Center, and surrounding federal lands. (Location: Baker, Nevada)
- **Downtown Henderson Parks and Open Space** – The project goal is to identify new park sites and recreation enhancements. (Location: Henderson, Nevada)
- **Eastern Sierra Trails** – The project goal is to form a new trail partnership for the northern portion of the Eastern Sierra Front. (Location: Reno, Lake Tahoe and Carson City, Nevada)
- **Lake Mead Institute** – The project goal is to form the Lake Mead Institute that serves a pivotal role in education, interpretation, and stewardship programming at Lake Mead serving thousands of adults and youth annually. (Location: Boulder City, Nevada)
- **Mohave Water Trail** – The project goal is to promote and increase awareness of this 43-mile segment of the Colorado River, which connects to the Black Canyon Water Trail at Eldorado Canyon and extends to Laughlin. (Location: Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Nevada)
- **Northwest Las Vegas Trails & Open Space** – The project goal is to create a connected network of trails, parks and open space at the desert edge. (Location: Las Vegas, Nevada)
- **Truckee River Corridor Management** – The project goal is to protect, manage and provide stewardship opportunities to 25 miles of the Truckee River corridor supported by multiple public and private partners and the public. (Location: Reno, Nevada)



Paddlers on the Mohave Water Trail. Photo: Izzy Collett

## Recent Success Story

**Valley of Fire State Park** – Completed in 2010, the Valley of Fire State Park Master Plan identified recreation and conservation priorities for Nevada's oldest state park. Proactive plan implementation led by Nevada State Parks has resulted in the restoration of 24 acres of desert habitat, enhancement of 24-miles of existing trails, and construction of the new 3-mile "Fire Wave Trail".

For more information about the RTCA program refer to: [www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca), or for information about ongoing or potential RTCA projects in Nevada contact:

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